

**LICENSING ACT  
COMMITTEE**

**2.00 P.M.**

**31ST JANUARY 2013**

**PRESENT:** Councillors Paul Aitchison (Chairman), Malcolm Thomas (Vice-Chairman), June Ashworth, Josh Bancroft, Mike Greenall, Val Histed, Roger Sherlock, Joyce Taylor (for Minute No. 14 only) and Paul Woodruff

Apologies for Absence:

Councillors Tracey Kennedy and Margaret Pattison

Officers in Attendance:

Wendy Peck	Licensing Manager
Luke Gorst	Assistant Solicitor
Jane Glenton	Democratic Support Officer

**11 MINUTES**

The minutes of the meeting held on 22<sup>nd</sup> November 2012 were signed by the Chairman as a correct record.

**12 ITEMS OF URGENT BUSINESS AUTHORISED BY THE CHAIRMAN**

There were no items of urgent business.

**13 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

There were no declarations of interest.

**Councillor Taylor arrived at this point.**

**14 LICENSING ACT 2003 - CUMULATIVE IMPACT POLICY**

Committee received the report of the Licensing Manager. The report had been produced at the request of Councillor Aitchison to explain to Members the steps that would need to be taken in order to include a special policy relating to cumulative impact into the Licensing Act 2003 Statement of Licensing Policy.

It was reported that there must be an evidential basis for considering the introduction of a cumulative impact policy in the Statement of Licensing Policy. Any such policy must relate to specific areas where a concentration of licensed premises had had a cumulative impact on one or more of the licensing objectives. There was no evidence to justify such a policy in the Lancaster district at present.

Members noted that the effect of adopting a cumulative impact policy would be to create a rebuttable presumption that applications of a certain type within the defined area would be refused. However, a cumulative impact policy could not act as an absolute prohibition on the granting of new licences, and the absence of one did not prevent responsible authorities or interested parties from raising concerns about the cumulative impact in

relation to specific applications, or prevent the licensing authority from rejecting or modifying an application if representations had been received.

It was reported that if a cumulative impact policy was included in the Statement of Licensing Policy, the licensing authority could not apply the policy unless a representation had been received from a responsible authority or other person. Any consideration to include a cumulative impact policy in the Statement of Licensing Policy would have to be consulted upon.

***Resolved:***

That the report be noted.

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Chairman

(The meeting ended at 2.09 p.m.)

**Any queries regarding these Minutes, please contact  
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jglenton@lancaster.gov.uk**